

**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Distantly Relative**

Case display: 6 June – 20 July 2014

The Pitt Rivers Museum is pleased to announce the forthcoming exhibition of work by goldsmithing, silversmithing, metalwork and jewellery students from the Royal College of Art, London.

Showing exciting new work made in response to chosen artefacts from the Museum's collection, *Distantly Relative* sets up real and imagined dialogues between objects across time and cultures.

Eight RCA postgraduates set out to create objects that are 'distant relatives' to a chosen Museum artefact. The project invited them to consider how their object might have links or *kinship* to the past, but also embrace contemporary or emerging technologies, behaviour or beliefs.

*Distantly Relative* presents work that references the past but speaks of the contemporary. Using an innovative array of 21<sup>st</sup> century processes you can expect to see laser cutting and 3D printing, alongside more traditional jewellery and metalworking techniques such as raising copper, soldering, etching and patination.

The exhibition features a 3D printed wearable object that discharges receipts and speaks of consumption in contemporary society; an exquisite leather and resin laser cut wrap that houses and tantalizingly displays a collection of coin and a new product that makes decision-making a thing of the past. These and many more beautiful, curious and thought-provoking objects are included in the display.

This is the second collaborative project between the Pitt Rivers Museum and the GSM&J programme of the Royal College of Art. Following on from the 2013 *In Reverse* exhibition, *Distantly Relative* shows the work of some of tomorrow's most cutting-edge and compelling makers and designers.

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## Notes for Editors

- The Pitt Rivers Museum is one of Oxford's most popular attractions, famous for its period atmosphere and outstanding collections from many cultures around the world, past and present. Admission, exhibitions and events are FREE.
- The Pitt Rivers Museum was founded in 1884 when General Pitt-Rivers, an influential figure in the development of archaeology and evolutionary anthropology, gave his personal collection of 20,000 items to the University on condition that a museum was built to house the material, and that a post was created to lecture in anthropology. Today the collection numbers some 600,000 items, and the Museum remains an active department of Oxford University doing and supporting research and teaching in archaeology and anthropology.

## Press and Image Contacts

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